Risk Allowance to Employees of National Zoological Park.

6193. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to grant Risk Allowance to Malies, chowkidars and other categories of employees in Zoo who are not getting Risk Allowance but are engaged in duties involving great hazards and whose health is liable to be adversely affected progressively over a long period of time;

(b) If so, when; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The risk allowance to Zoo employees in paid on the basis of the recommendations made by the Committee constituted by the Government of India in pursuance of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission to examine the need for grant of risk allowance for different categories of employees and also the adequacy of the risk allowance. The Committee had recommended that the risk allowance should be paid to the employees engaged in sanitary cleaning of underground drains, sewer lines and infectious disease hospitals etc. In view of these recommendations, only Assistant Keepers, Keepers and such other employees who are actually engaged in cleaning of either the enclosures of animals orthe animal wards in the zoo hospital are paid the risk allowance. Malies, Chowkidars and other employees who are not involved in sanitary duties are not eligible for risk allowance.

Death of Animals/Birds In National Zoological Park

6194. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an unusualiy large number of animals and birds have died in the National Zoological park in the recent years;

(b) whether any study has been conducted in order to find out the cause of their death; and

(c) The number of such animals/birds who died during the last three years;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH). (a) to (c). The number of animals and birds that were in the stock and the number of animals and birds that have died at National Zoological park during last three years are as follow:

STATEMENT

	1988-90		1989-90		1990-91	
	animals	*birds*	*animals*	*birds*	*animals*	*birds*
Number of animals and birds in stock	399	1200	408	1295	415	1366
Number of animals and birds that died during the year	112	142	104	294	69	74

To ascertain specific cause of death every dead wild animal in National Zoological Park, Delhi is subjected to a post-mortem. Detailed laboratory tests and investigations of the viscera are also carried out in cases of important species.

Release of Forest Lands for Projects

6195. DR. VASANT NIRGMTH PAWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to release forest lands for projects for the welfare of tribal people in tribal areas, when alternate land is provided for forests by State Government;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to clear Sangvi Project in Tehsil Akola in Maharashtra; and

(c) whether the Government propose to relax the rules in releasing forest land in the interest of tribal/ backward people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The Forest Conservation Act aims to provide for conservation of forests which given ecological security to the area as well as to the tribals living in the forests. Diversion of forests land for non-Forestry works is examined very carefully on merits and cases or projects for welfare of tribals are also considered in this manner.The proposal under the Forest Conservation Act for Sangvi project in Akola Tehsil of Maharashtra was received by the Ministry of 21.8.1991. The case is under examination.

(c) Suitable relations have been provided in the existing guidelines with regard to the use of forest land for schemes/projects benefitting the tribals/backward classes. No further relaxations are under consideration.

Use of Copper-T

6196. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY FELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the family planning scheme using Copper-T by married women has been successful, particularly in the rural areas of the country.

(b) the number of married women who availed of the Copper-T facility during the last three Yeas;

(c) whether any report of complaints have been made about the side-effect of using Copper-T device by them; and

(d) If so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT.D.K THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). Copper-T (IUD) is one of the most popular contraceptive device in our National Family Welfare Programme. The number of IUD insertions performed during the last 3 years is indicated below:-

Year	*IUD Insertions(No.)*
1988-89	48,51,483
1989-90	49,36,639 (Provisional)
1990-91	53,22,143 (Provisional)

As per the latest available figures, 76.5% and 77,7% of the IUD-acceptors during the years 1988-89 and 1989-90 were from rural areas.